

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-10 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /114 W

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R 192338Z JAN 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9145

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0176

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH, PORG

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE ON SANCTIONS TIGHTENING (COST) JANUARY 17

REF: USUN 5764

1. COST, MINUS ITALY AND IRAN, MET JANUARY 17 AT USUN. IRAN'S MEMBERSHIP STATUS IS UNCLEAR. SWITZERLAND HAS NOT YET ANSWERED THE COMMITTEE'S INVITATION TO JOIN.

2. JAPAN, UK, AND DENMARK SUBMITTED RESPONSES TO COST QUESTIONNAIRE ON NATIONAL SANCTIONS POLICIES. RESPONSES FROM OTHER MEMBERS, INCLUDING US, WERE NOT YET READY. DISCUSSION OF
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QUES-

TIONNAIRE RESULTS WAS POSTPONED PENDING RECEIPT OF REMAINDER OF RESPONSES.

3. REGARDING A POSSIBLE SECOND COST QUESTIONNAIRE (ON THIRD COUNTRY LOOPHOLES), ONLY CANADA, US AND JAPAN SHOWED INTEREST IN PURSUING THE IDEA. NETHERLANDS AND DENMARK

SAID MOST THEIR GOVERNMENTS COULD DO IN RESPONSE TO SUCH A QUESTIONNAIRE WOULD BE TO STATE SELF-EVIDENT FACT THAT SOUTH AFRICA COMPLIANCE WAS KEY TO EFFECTIVE SANCTIONS ON RHODESIA. UK (RELLIE) FLATLY OPPOSED SECOND COST QUESTIONNAIRE OR ANY OTHER COST ACTION WHICH TOO BADLY POINTED A FINGER AT SOUTH AFRICA, ON GROUNDS SUCH ACTIONS COULD ONLY LEAD TO INTENSIFIED CALLS FOR ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA WHICH HMG WAS NOT PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE. FAILING TO GAIN EVEN MAJORITY SUPPORT, IDEA OF COST QUESTIONNAIRE ON THIRD COUNTRY LOOPHOLES WAS DROPPED.

4. REGARDING A PUBLICITY FUNCTION FOR COST, MEMBER FELT THAT A PUBLIC STATEMENT ON THE TECHNICAL ANALYSIS CAPABILITY OF COST MEMBERS (AS SUGGESTED BY UK AT LAST MEETING (REFTEL)) WOULD BE SO PALLID AS TO DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD. A STRONG STATEMENT CRITICAL OF SOUTH AFRICA NON-COMPLIANCE WITH RHODESIA SANCTIONS WAS ALSO OPPOSED BY THE UK AND FRANCE AS AN INVITATION FOR UNWANTED PRESSURES ON THEM FOR ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

5. CHAIRMAN (GRAHAM-US) THEN READ LETTER HE AND UK REP HAD JUST RECEIVED FROM SANCTIONS EXPERT BERNARD RIVERS, ASKING TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE. THE NETHERLANDS (VON BENTINCK) ARGUED STRONGLY THAT COST SHOULD HEAR RIVERS AND THAT REFUSAL COULD BE EMBARRASSING. COST AGREED TO INVITE RIVERS TO NEXT MEETING, SETTING CONFIDENTIAL

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GROUND RULES IN ADVANCE THAT HIS APPEARANCE WOULD BE LIMITED TO TECHNICAL DISCUSSION AND NOT REPEAT NOT INCLUDE A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF OIL SANCTIONS OR SECURITY COUNCIL STRATEGIES CONCERNING THEM.

6. NEXT COST MEETING SET FOR FEBRUARY 14 AT CANADIAN MISSION. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT COMPLEION OF USG RESPONSE TO COST QUESTIONNAIRE SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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